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State of Utah
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining

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Executive Director

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March 12, 2008

John A. Gefferth, Environmental Engineer
Consolidation Coal Company
P.O. Box 566
Sesser, Illinois 62884

Subject: Reclamation Time Frame For Sealing Exploration Holes, Consolidation Coal Company,
Hidden Valley, C/015/0007, Task ID #2941, Outgoing File

Dear Mr. Gefferth:

On March 04, 2008, the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining (the Division) received Consolidation Coal Company's (the Permittee) submittal dated February 29, 2008. The submittal outlines the Permittee's intent to leave three exploration holes un-reclaimed on the Hidden Valley property.

The submittal states that JBR Environmental Consultants, Inc. have been contracted to begin drafting an application for a Major Exploration Permit (MEP) for the Hidden Valley coal reserve. To that end, the submittal discussed that the three exploration holes are being utilized for baseline groundwater data collection. The submittal identifies December 31, 2008 as the date in which either "the holes must be submitted as part of a groundwater monitoring plan within a pending or approved mining reclamation plan or sealed with cement from bottom to top or other sealing methods approved by the Division".

The Division hereby approves of the proposal to leave the exploration holes un-reclaimed for groundwater monitoring purposes until December 31, 2008. At that time, the Division will revisit the issue and make a determination as to whether the holes should be reclaimed.

Enclosed is a stamped approved copy for insertion into your copy of the Minor Exploration Plan.

If you have any questions, please call me at (801) 538-5262 or Steve Christensen at (801) 538-5350.

Sincerely,

James D. Smith
Assistant Permit Supervisor

skc

cc: Price Field Office

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